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P R O P H E C I E S

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FROM THE

O R A C L E   O F   D E L P H O S .

P R I C E   H A L F - A - C R O W N .

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P R O P H E C I E S  
DELIVERED BY A  
D E S C E N D A N T  
FROM THE  
O R A C L E   O F   D E L P H O S,  
O F   T H E  
*FUTURE LIVES AND DEATHS*  
O F   T H E  
F O L L O W I N G   D I S T I N G U I S H E D   P E R S O N A G E S,

V I Z.

|                  |                  |               |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 20 The ———       | 10 D— of R——     | 40 C— T——     |
| 27 The ———       | 11 Mr. H——       | 41 D— of C——  |
| 28 The P——       | 12 Sir H—— M——h  | 42 D— of G——  |
| 1 Sir W. L——     | 13 Sir R. P. A—— | 43 Mr. P——    |
| 2 L— H——         | 14 Mr. F——       | 44 A. of ——   |
| 3 Mr. H——y       | 15 D— of Q——     | 45 B—— of L—— |
| 4 D— of D——      | 16 Mr. D——       | 46 D— of D——  |
| 5 Mr. E——        | 17 Mr. B——       | 47 L— T——     |
| 6 P— T——, Esq.   | 18 Sir G. P. T—— | 48 Mr. S——    |
| 7 D— of Y——      | 19 D— of N——     | 49 Mr. W——    |
| 8 L— H——         | 20 L— L——        | 50 L— H——     |
| 9 B—— of D——     | Mr. S——          | 51 L— A——     |
| 30 C—— L——       | B—— H——          | 52 L—y A——    |
| 31 E— L——        | 42 P—— E——       | 53 D— of B——  |
| 32 Mr. B——       | 43 C—— T——       | 54 Mr. K——    |
| 33 W—— P——, Esq. | 50 M—— W——       | 55 L— F——     |
| 34 M—— of B——    | 52 Sir J—— L——   | &c. &c.       |

In the fair Balance I have pois'd their Deeds,  
Consider'd what are right, and what are wrong;—  
From Inference have drawn their future Lives,  
Nor spar'd a King thro' Dread of anger'd Pow'r!

London:

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## P R O P H E C I E S, &c.

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AS the oracle of Delphos was to ancient Greece a source of perpetual information, the gift of prophecy having descended from my fires—the priests of Apollo—to an obscure individual of the eighteenth century, I am much inclined to think the information I have, in the following pages, given to the world, may be productive of real benefit to some, by preparing themselves for evils not to be avoided, of instruction to many, and of amusement to all.

The characters delineated *in futuro*, are well known either in the literary, political, or noble hemispheres; nor will it require the penetration of an Argus to discover the personages that have benefited by divine inspiration. The first prophecy that presents itself to view, is that of



1                      Sir Watkin Lewis,

a knight well known for the *unexampled dignity* of his *eloquence*, for his *military achievements*, and for the *uncommon punctuality* of his *payments*.

This gentleman will most assuredly die a martyr to his many virtues, as he has always been chained to the service of administration, without having obtained the smallest recompence, it is likely perpetual disappointment may induce him at length to rail at those whom he now considers as friends ; that an unlucky storm of opprobrious epithets in the Commons may blast his reputation for disinterestedness which he never possessed, and that the violence of an English mobility may crown his *prolific* brow with the honours of a night-cart, previous to a fatal ducking under the arches of Black-fryars, the properest reward for pretended patriotism and puerile impertinence.

2                      Lord Lieutenants,

Not content with the rewards of his country, for services ambiguous ; not content with the laurels of a viceroyship, he traduced the conduct of his superior, and what he lost in the eyes of the respectable part of mankind,



mankind, endeavoured to secure among the envious and illiberal.

Sollicitous of political honor, and of oratorical celebrity, he may, though old, continue to sit many sessions in the commons, but never to his own edification, or the service of the public. Ousted from city suffrages, ministerial influence may secure him those of a rotten borough.

At the summit of naval reputation, his future services can be but those of imbecility, and his future rewards can be but those of corruption.

At length some maffy ball—but not of ordnance formation—will level him, in an electioneering contest—no loss to the world—no acquisition to the realms of Pandæmonium.

3

*Mr. H——,*

Fraught with the delightful conceptions of a tragedy in embryo, anticipating the peals of laughter of the theatrical gods (for this gentleman's tragedies possess a peculiar excitement to risibility), the smiles of the nymphs of the boxes, and the judicious, yet flattering criticisms of the pit critics, at the death of his stage heroine, he will involuntarily laugh himself into an  
hysterical



hysterical fit, that will continue without intermission till he closes the scene of a comi-tragedy, more ridiculous than Eudora. —

4 — D — of *D* evening

His Grace, if he continues so closely connected to his Duchess may, to be sure, be screened from the rude blasts of a Northerly wind. The protection from so complete a jockey as his wife, may equally contribute to the enlargement of his coffers, as the safety of his person ; and if he now and then only ventures forth for the benefit of fresh air, he may yet drag through many years, unknown to the world, either as to his abilities, his person, or his manners. —

5 — Mr. *E* skine,

An enemy to that proper decorum which should at all times pervade the chambers of justice, as he has for many years rattled at the bar ; not without eloquence, against the most upright, and most ingenuous magistrates ; the same line of conduct which he seems little inclined to resign for the manners of a gentleman, may secure him the admiration of the multitude, and the false appellation of a patriot ; but he never can be  
considered



considered a sound lawyer, or will his conduct ever procure him that promotion which he so ardently aims at. ~

6

*Phillip Thicknesse Esq.*

Deserted by his friends and relations, unable to preserve terms of common civility even with his son; as he is grown old in invective and abuse against all the world, so will his death to many afford satisfaction—to none lamentation. ~

7

*Duke of York.*

Inclined, from habit and from situation, to expence, yet naturally parsimonious to a degree;—when he grows advanced in years, his table will be the table of poverty, his house will be an asylum for none; his death will either be occasioned by the suffocating quality of a mouldy piece of cheese; or the putrid stench of a leg of mutton, which had feasted his family for a month. ~

8

*Lord Howe.*

Though a good seaman, and a brave commander, yet, too fond of wealth ever to sacrifice his own interest to the good of his country; if he was obliged to fight

C

hard



hard for the preservation of his life or his property, he might be worth something ; but as long as the procrastination of a war can be beneficial to himself—I would not give a *sous* for his services. x

9 The <sup>Late</sup> Lord Mayor. *Wil. Pickett*

A mere projector ; a builder of castles in the air, without materials, method, or any thing else ; a would-be great man ; but ever will be a little man. His head resembles a cocoa nut, hard on the outside, but made up of milk and pulp within. His conceptions are monstrous, and generally end in smoke ; and the period of his magistracy will be formed of professions in abundance ; but the accomplishment of them can never come to pass. Perpetually plotting and unplotting ; building and destroying ; making and unmaking. The brain of this lunatic, after his decease, will, upon dissection, form the most curious exhibition of phænomena that ever came under the eye of the naturalist.—Among many others—Temple-Bar in ruins !—St. Paul's Church suspended to an air-balloon !—The Bank turned topsy-turvy !—The India-House floating on the ocean !—First-rate men of war drawn upon sledges through the streets of the metropolis !—

Thoughts

*That the Prophet was greatly mistaken in this character we require no further evidences than the victory over the French Fleet on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1793.*



Thoughts upon building on inflated bladders, and why they are preferable to woolfacks!—A scheme for changing the court of aldermen, whenever they become unruly!—And, to crown the whole of the conceptions of this wonderful projector—a plan for improving upon the order of nature!!!

10

*Duke of Richmond*

Another schemer, equally eccentric and ridiculous as the former, and unfortunately possessing more power of squandering away public money on new modes of destruction, abortive in the very theory, and infinitely more so in the execution.—Of raising fortifications to defend a grenadier's cap, or of inclosing ditches to exclude the nauseous visits of toads and frogs. He is also a wonderful reformer; can ascertain, to the one-hundredth part of a farthing, the necessary expences of the officers under him, and has it in contemplation to reduce their salaries to that standard!—But, in order to do it more effectually, he is drawing up a bill which he means to submit to the Commons, the outlines of which are that no man in the ----- department shall marry, till he is forty years of age, and shall not cohabit with his wife after having begot two children,

as



as a large family will be materially detrimental to the economy of his plan ; he has then made a close calculation of the necessary expences in rearing these unnecessary innovators upon reformation to manhood, and concludes, upon the whole, that *fifteen pounds a-year* will be sufficient for the maintenance and happiness of each family.

Another stupendous idea, in consequence of the Spanish war, he will shortly lay before the public, wherein he proposes to take the whole navy of Spain without difficulty or bloodshed. The Minister is to put under his command two large frigates, each to be stowed with many thousand fathoms of nine-inch cable, and, when these ships come in sight of the Spanish fleet, they are to sail in different directions, and fasten the said cables to each ship, and then each of the frigates, raising all her sails, to make directly for the nearest British port !—The project of the rat fastening a bell round the cat's neck, never entered his head ; and so sanguine will he be in the practicability of his project, that all the arguments in the world will never be able to beat him out of it. The death of this disciple of invention, will be occasioned by the failure of a scheme which he has long had in contemplation, of accumulating



ing a vast quantity of hard stone, with which he means to load many hundred mortars, and, through the aid of an uncommon quantity of gun-powder, storm the city of Paris, from the heights of Dover. Upon consulting the book of fate, I find it decreed, that he himself, by the explosion of a piece of ordnance, will fall a martyr to his enthusiasm. ~

//

*Mr. Hastings*

Though the character of this gentleman will be difficult to defend, yet will it be much more laborious to prove his criminality. If there be roguery, it is so far hidden from public elucidation, as to acquire the appellation of persecuted honesty ; and, at all events, considering him either as the villain, or the man of principle, his persecutors can never substantiate the numerous and flagrant charges of cruelty and corruption brought against him, but by pursuing methods infinitely more decisive than those they have adopted. ~

12

*Sir Herbert Mackworth*

A negative kind of character, neither too virtuous nor too infamous. Possessed of sociable qualities sufficient to enliven the chair of conviviality, but by no

D

means



means to beguile the hours of sorrow, or alleviate the distresses of the unfortunate. He will live a few years longer, with little variation from those that have already passed, pleased by the trifling occurrences of a trifling age, and at the beginning of the next century, he will take his departure for the other world—no loss to this. ✓

13      *Sir Richard Pepper Arden.*

Without abilities of any description whatsoever—without any recommendation but the partiality of a Minister, he has attained considerable and lucrative promotion. But the fun of his honours has attained the meridian<sup>x</sup>; a disgrace to those friends who, before, good-naturedly aided his advancement, they have found out that he already possesses infinitely more than his deserts; as nothing can ever break his heart, possessing neither feeling or sensibility, all the diurnal abuse which is so justly levelled at his filling so respectable a station, will never occasion him a moment's uneasiness. ✓

14      *Hon. Charles Fox.*

No other situation than that which this gentleman has filled for a series of sessions in the Commons, could  
 ever

*This prophecy is fallacious for Sir Richard was raised from the Mastership of the Rolls to the head of the Court of Chancery & at the same time elevated to the H<sup>o</sup> of Lords with the title of Albany.*



ever have been so consonant to his abilities. Too artless to guide the reins of government, the few months he was in office, proved how unequal he was to the chicanery of his coadjutors. As a leader of opposition, he has repeatedly proved his staunch patriotic principles to be incorruptible; his abilities, equal to unveiling the most impervious labyrinths of corruption, and his eloquence to the exhibiting of them in the most glowing colours. As an opposition member, he will continue to exert his uncommon abilities and unshaken integrity, till he secures a seat in the Senate of the Gods.

15

*Duke of Queensberry*

Little can be said of this rotten piece of nobility, but what is well known; and as there is little to come but a repetition of former scenes of iniquity, we will just take a retrospect of his pantomimical life. When but a very young man, he gave up every idea of honour to the gratification of his pleasures; and, to once seating himself in the House of Lords for a few minutes, may be balanced whole years of debauchery and licentiousness in the purlieus of Covent-Garden and King's Place. The gaming-table and the turf were the renovators



renovators of his purse, when unbounded extravagance had exhausted the produce of his estates. So little sense did he possess of integrity, that he would bargain for the disposal of the whole of his parliamentary interest to the highest bidder; and even, if he had an opportunity of doing it to advantage, would again sell what he had already forfeited all pretensions to. He is now a lump of imbecility, tortured with desire, the slave of unruly passions, without possessing the means of gratifying them. In fact, he is equally detested by the old and the young; too wicked to be admitted to the society of the former, and too ridiculous to be countenanced by the latter. He will shortly close an infamous life, in an infamous way. Captivated by the charms of some nymph at Mother ~~Windsor's~~ <sup>Windsor's</sup>, by stimulants, he will enable himself to satiate his desires; but the debilitating consequences arising from veteran enjoyment will occasion a stroke of the palsy that will end his detested career.

16

Mr. Dundas — *Lora Melville.*

The Scotch are the most wonderful people upon the face of the earth for their brazen impudence, and as a nation of sturdy adventurers; we may consider this  
subject



subject as the hero. Possessed of features constantly uniform, he would abash the most determined Irishman (and the Irish are not remarkable for their modesty), or look the most ferocious lion out of countenance. With an empty purse he travelled to London for promotion, and, by resolutely enforcing pretensions he had no pretence to, he procured the most lucrative appointments in the state. He has not, however, lost any recollection of his former situation, as he has it actually in contemplation to introduce a bill into the House, of which he is a member, to the following purport: That none but his countrymen shall in future have it in their power to hold any of the numerous appointments under government, or, as he very wisely observes, possess the right of governing their own nation, as he is much inclined to think, and we do not doubt of the reality of his conjectures, that his own countrymen would be much pleased with handling the Exchequer and Treasury salaries. As a farther recommendation of his plan, he thinks there will be more disinterestedness in the views of strangers than of natives, and that the government would not be so eat up by corruption, when in the hands of the North Britons. This, however, we cannot vouch for; but the following will most assuredly be the

E

confe-



consequences, whenever he submits this reforming project to the opinion of the public. A mob of veterans, in the art of destroying, will pull his house about his ears ; and, if he escapes with his life, he will be obliged to fly back to Scotland for protection ; detested on the one part by those who were his patrons, and not honoured on the other, even for the friendly tendency of his unaccountable and ridiculous project.

17 *Mr. Burke.*

The meridian of this veteran, in the service of his country, is passed away, and the wane of second childhood approaches fast upon him. As no man, at one time, was possessed of brighter abilities, or more inflexible integrity, we ought to look with the eye of compassion upon the many ludicrous instances of intellectual imbecility with which he is daily tormenting the public. If it were not fresh in our memory what he has been, it would be impossible to put up with what he is : but, good old man ! let me advise you to resign the bustle of public employment, for the silent and requiescent shades of domestic retirement. The late dissolution of Parliament gave you a fit opportunity to retire with eclat to yourself, and with gratification to  
your



your friends. But now learn to your cost, learn, that it is written in the book of Fate,—that your political career, will be molested with thorns and disappointment, and your demise will be unlamented by those numerous friends who would have bedew'd your grave with the tears of sorrow, and at the same time have exclaimed, "Here rests an honest man!"

18 *Sir Gregory Pages Turner.*

A very curious lump of impudence, conjoined with ignorance; the farcical career which he has exhibited to the world, in adulation, infinitely more disagreeable to the object of it than the grossest abuse, proves in how contemptible a light he is considered by the world. —What can we say of him more hereafter, than what he has already been, equally ridiculous to all, and never to be regarded by any. ~

19 *Duke of Norfolk.*

This nobleman is doomed to experience some very extraordinary exit. An apostate from the creed entertained by his forefathers;—an apostate from the pomp and parade of power;—from the fascinating charms of cleanliness, from the ties of matrimonial felicity, his  
Grace



Grace is one of the strangest compounds of heterogeneous absurdity and excellence that ever was formed. His politics are something of a neutral order; very well inclined to serve his party, provided they do not dip too deep into the recesses of his coffers; yet by no means to be secured by corruption. As his manners are blunt and decisive, so is his mind incapable of soaring into the regions of genius; nor does his oratory possess the power of captivating his audience with the beauties of eloquence, yet enlightened by sound sense; and, if not brilliant, always instructive. In this line of conduct will he continue the remainder of his life; too proud to stoop to royalty itself, he will adhere to the anti-ministerialists, that he may not have a rival in his party that can eclipse him; and he will continue to rail at ministry, whether right or wrong, as he considers an opposition is necessary to preserve a vigour in their proceedings. Upon enquiry into his fate, we find he will fall a sacrifice to some one of the following accidents—which of them is at present an uncertainty: suffocation from the violent effects of a glass of water, which he will be persuaded to make use of to rinse his mouth, not having cleansed it before for upwards of thirty years.—Distraction at the matrimonial engagement of an illegitimate



illegitimate son, and which introduced him into the household of his sovereign.—The consequence of some violent proceedings, which he had countenanced, with a view to effectuate a revolution in the government of his country—or, by the fracture of a blood-vessel, in a violent exertion to bully the Chancellor into a coincidence with him, in some political whig absurdity.

20

*His Majesty.*

When a series of inconsiderate actions, of absurd propositions, of puerile follies, have disgraced full thirty years of the prime of life, we have no reason to expect a reverse of conduct, or an amendment of consequences. The situation of <sup>the King.</sup> —, is very elevated; and if he had possessed the abilities requisite in many subordinate situations, he might have conducted himself with honour, and his projects might have been crowned with success; but, unfortunately for this country, the reverse has uniformly prevailed, and most probably will, during the remainder of his life; yet is he so totally destitute of feeling, as never to experience a pang for the many inconveniences and miseries he has been the cause of. If he was to launch the nation into an end-

F

less



less scene of storms and troubles, still would he smile upon the many disasters, as long as he was a quiet spectator of them. Such insensibility is very unaccountable; yet such it is—and such it will continue, as long as he lives. Let us therefore draw a veil over what is passed, and if we could do the same over what is to come, we might be happy; but the deities have decreed that we should continue to be tormented by the projects of a farmer, of a huntsman, of a man whose soul is absorb'd in money; and though he possesses millions, has not the spirit to see his physician. ~

21

*Lord Loughborough* *J. Justice of C.P.*

The situation of this peer is great, and very deservedly so—his abilities are of the first order, and his manners are those of the gentleman and the courtier—but the blemishes, which in some measure obscure his perfections, are an overbearing positiveness in his judicial capacity, and an unwillingness to recede from an opinion he is once bigoted to. He has risen to great honours in his profession, though not to the summit, which it is most likely he will never attain. x

He

*\* This prediction has failed. Upon the resignation of Lord Thurlow &c. he was elevated to the woolsack on which he kept his seat for several years. When from ill health he was obliged to retire from public business, he was created Earl of Roslyn 1805*



He is another instance of the adventurous disposition of the natives of the North; though it must be allowed, that all he has acquired, he is deserving of: we cannot say so much of Mr. Dundas *afterwards D Melville.*

22

Sir J—— L—,

A Musical cognoscenti—a catgut strummer, or bagpipe blower—whatever you please to make him—he will dance, sing, or caper out of a window, or into a lady's bed-chamber—just as she pleases! upon the whole, he is one of the most convenient little smirking baronets in his Majesty's dominions: a slave only to his pleasures, he knows no difference between whig and tory; no distinction between the lobster in canonicals, or in regimentals. As he is good-tempered, so is he preserved from a fray, which would crack his bones in an instant—only to doom him to a more cruel fate, which awaits him from his hoyden consort.—Anger'd at the supineness of her husband, in not resenting a gross affront upon her dignity at a masquerade—on her return home, she will seize a fiddle-stick, which will unfortunately lay in the way, and with the string, strangle him in instant.

Capt.



A nominal hero, who pays much attention to the cut of his coat, and to the fashion of his waistcoat, but none to the hoarse sounding instruments of war; he is a perfect petit-maitre, and is as well acquainted with the effect of a tint of rouge, or of a magnificent patch upon his effeminate face, as the most coquettish lady in the kingdom; and is, *in toto*, what the fashionable world would denominate the *tippy*—He is so much the furniture of a lady's bed-chamber, that many females of his acquaintance would faint away but for his presence.—Happy man! did he but know how to employ his time to the best advantage!—He has very much contributed, through the medium of a news-paper, of which he is proprietor, to encrease what had before acquir'd too considerable an ascendancy—the unmeaning nonsense prevalent in high life—and for this service what does he deserve?—a flogging from every student of the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. However, it is most likely he will preserve the ascendancy he has attained, as he is, to be sure, as entertaining and as harmless a creature, to waste an idle hour on, as a  
young



young monkey just arrived from the coast of Africa, and is as mischievous as the species he resembles: but it has no other evil tendency, than destroying a few ladies reputations, by way of innocent amusement. The corporation of taylors intend making him a member of their corps—by dangling a pair of sheers at his side, and a measure round his neck—This will throw him into a swoon, whence all the hartshorn of a manufactory will not be able to recover him. ~

24

*Duke of Clarence.*

Here we are presented with a character, whose actions are influenced by the finest feelings of philanthropy; although his career of life is boisterous, he is blest with many admired qualities, which are perpetually emanating through the vulgarity of his profession, and in time he will possess the summit of naval honours: resembling in many respects, the excellencies of his great uncle. The nation may hope for a series of victories through his exertions, that will raise it to the most exalted pinnacle of naval glory. To uncommon courage he conjoins good seamanship; and to crown the whole, perpetually exercise all the attributes of humanity. ~

*False*  
G

D—



25

*Duke of Gloucester,*

Free from the cares of government, and unacquainted with party machinations, his heart has been as sincere in the practice of every domestic virtue, as his determination has been firm to avoid the broils of political warfare: this conduct, which he has uniformly pursued, would have been culpable in many, but in his Grace is peculiarly commendatory: possessed neither of abilities to shine in the Cabinet or Senate, he judiciously chose to indulge in the tranquil pleasures of retirement—and will continue in that situation—admired by all, an enemy to none, till an honourable old age brings his hoary locks to the grave.

26

*Mr. Pitt,*

A most uncommon epitome of state chicanery and deception—the prototype of artifice, and the prince of hypocrisy. Let me introduce to the reader, some of the secret arcana which influence the conduct of this singular genius. Educated at one of the most celebrated public academies that does honour to the kingdom,  
 he



he discovered a capacity capable of penetrating into the views of his instructors, or of unveiling the mischievous designs which too often characterize the genius of the school-boy : this clandestine knowledge he constantly converted to his own advantage, either by assuming a popular masque, and combining the power of his fellow-students, against the happiness of the tutors; or, in the character of a spy, unraveling all the folds of puerile wickedness to his governors—In either situation, he never became a conspicuous betrayer ; for tho' always a rogue, yet never was a rogue in disguise. Before he had disengaged himself from the trammels of minorship, he procur'd a seat in the Senate ; and, to crown his hopes, in a very few years, by a series of duplicity, attain'd the summit of his ambition : in this situation, what he has done, is fresh in the minds of all, what he will do I mean to unveil to the public. Among many other designs, equally injurious, impolitic, and ludicrous, the following he has particularly at heart to accomplish : To convert a democratic monarchy into an absolute one, and to establish a general excise throughout the kingdom. To ascertain precisely how far an English mob will put up with tyrannic principles, and when they begin to be outrageous, this

he



he would wish to be solved by a philosophical inquiry, and as he has often occasion to try the experiment, he will furnish any gentleman with materials who chooses to investigate the subject—to make the distinction of privileges enjoined by the Test Act, still more material, by a determined resolution to oppose the promotion of the Dissenters, into every office, both public and private. Constantly to preserve a degree of hauteur in his manners, that must make him disgusting to every body with whom he is connected: also to entertain a frigidity towards the fair sex (which I believe to be real, that they may not place too great a reliance upon the politesse which is so much the characteristic of the English nation. To reject, with disdain, the proffered services of superior, or even abilities upon a par with his own, being determined to secure the whole weight of authority, and the gratification and commendation within himself. Never to give a reason for any project that he proposes to accomplish, as that would be too subservient to the general spirit of curiosity that pervades the people; but to say it shall be so, and that is sufficient. To raise a poll-tax sufficient to discharge the national embarrassment, by an equal impost upon all ranks of people: in making this experiment,



riment, it is doubtful whether he does not lose his head ; if, however, he should be so fortunate as to survive a scheme, fraught with the most mischievous consequences, his tyrannical principles will inevitably hasten a termination of his motley existence. ~

27

The Queen.

Notoriously parsimonious, and contemptibly mean—can it be at all doubted that the niggardly prevalence, which in so many instances characterises rich as well as poor, has its source in the original composition, and does not, as many are inclined to conjecture, proceed from a concatenation of unfortunate incidents : if it were not, how are the miserly qualities which are so prevalent in Her Majesty to be accounted for?—Strangely solicitous for the accumulation of farthings, when she has at her disposal thousands—it is much to be doubted, whether she would not prefer the scraping together of a fortune, rather than command the most ample, not having previously laboured for it. Her partiality is also unlimited as her parsimony, and so little does she possess of gratitude, that you might conti-

H

nue



nue unremittingly to do her the most material acts of service, and never be rewarded. Once she was much esteemed by all ; but, now that her character is developed, she is regarded by none : and the time is not far off, when universal detestation will succeed. She is doomed to exist many years, and to experience all the bitter anguish of widowhood : however, I am well persuaded she will console herself under the most trying misfortunes, by stock-jobbing speculations, and domestic penuriousness : her coffers will overflow with plenty, while her household will starve for want of provision ; and thus will she proceed, in gratifying the sordid passions that agonize her soul, till she is totally deserted by her domestics : at length, in hopes of daily saving a fixpence by abstinence from the luxury of the table, she will starve to death in the presence of plenty, without the resolution of making use of it. ~

28

*Arch-bishop of York. Dr. Markham formerly  
Head master of Westminster*

A true disciplinarian—who has attain'd preferment through the nervous elasticity of his arm, and, unable to throw off the manners of a pedagogue, often exercises



cises his authority from the bench of ecclesiastics, ultimately to his own mortification—at all times he has in view the wholesome effects to be derived from birch discipline, and, for want of other objects, not unfrequently flays the —— of his lady: it is however decreed, that the whole force of his whipping chastisement shall ultimately recoil upon himself, as a quarrel of a serious nature between him and his consort, will induce her to improve upon the only logic he ever became an adept in; and, armed with a weapon she had previously bespoke, well provided with wire, curry his old leathern side so perfectly into a shaking jelly, that a mortification must inevitably ensue. ~

29

*Bishop of Lincoln. Dr. Prettyman formerly  
Tutor to Mr. Pitt.*

Many thanks are due to this well-known dignitarian, for the many wholesome lessons of state policy which he has instilled into the mind of his pupil; were he but half as well acquainted with the virtues which, particularly in his elevated situation, he is enjoined to practise, as he is conversant with political chicanery, we might reasonably hope for a wonderful reformation of manners among the common people:  
but



but, alas! from this prelate so much good cannot reasonably be expected—Possessing no hopes of promotion in the world to come, and not being totally free from the turbulent lusts of the flesh, he considers temporal honours infinitely more agreeable, than uncertain rewards in the æthereal mansions. Biassed by this opinion, he pays great attention to the whimsicalities and incoherent propositions of his pupil, and will, undoubtedly, in time, possess the metropolitan see of England.\* Long, however, he cannot enjoy this elevated situation, as a fever, in consequence of the impossibility of his securing higher honours (for, like Alexander, his ambition is boundless), will carry him off, a prey to ten thousand rankling passions. ~

30

*Duke of Dorset.*

His Grace is a most admirable cricket-player—more cannot be said of him (as he is not in possession of any brains), farther, than that he will continue his fascinating sport, till one day, making a match with his dutchess for want of other antagonists, he will receive so violent a contusion on his paste-board noddle, as immediately

\* This prophecy is not likely to be accomplished to  
for upon the death of Dr. Moore, the Bishop of Norwich  
Dr. Manners Sutton was appointed to that exalted  
situation, notwithstanding the strenuous endeavours  
of Mr. Pitt in favour of his friend Dr. Prettyman. 1805.



to fall a sacrifice to his favourite amusement, in the arms of his faithful consort. ~

31

Lord Thurlow.

This is one of the most ferocious, though, at the same time, one of the best lawyers this kingdom ever boasted. His manners are those of an uneducated bear—and so little of the milk of human kindness does he possess, that he would not hesitate, in his judicial capacity, punishing his own mother, as severely as any person totally indifferent to him. Some persons may suppose this conduct may have its origin in a strict desire of impartiality; but this is not the case: it proceeds from a callosity in the texture of his heart, which the most persuasive female eloquence would never melt. His *bow-wow* diction often captivates the vulgar, and makes them consider him as a man blessed with uncommon intellects—The contrary is however the fact—He assumes a churlishness, in order to veil his ignorance—and, was he not a sound lawyer, he would not even possess the information necessary to exalt him above the vulgar herd.—He is a mean adherent to every administration; and will constantly pay his court to that party

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which.



which is uppermost. Under this idea, he intends continuing in office till his death ; but herein he is very much mistaken ; as shortly, a set of men will come into power, who, being well acquainted with his duplicity, will not allow of any concessions, which he is always so willing to make, for the furtherance of his interest ; but which, to an equal or inferior, whom he has offended, he never will think of.—In consequence of *T<sup>hurlow</sup>* being no longer *Chancellor* for want of subjects to exercise his bawling talents over, he will pine himself into the regions of Pluto—exclaiming at his last gasp, “better be king in hell, than not at all.”

32

*Mr. S<sup>heridan</sup>.*

This hero of opposition, is composed of so much trick and design, that friends, as well as enemies, will not venture to trust him.—He is, in truth, too much the appendage of the gaming-table, ever to have much reliance placed on his promises ; however, he is materially serviceable at times, in brow-baiting the minister ; and, as he conjoins to considerable humour much mathematical knowledge, he is equally able in discovering the fallaciousness of ministerial prospects, as he possesses abilities



abilities to treat them with the most poignant strokes of satire. He does all this, however, relying on the hope of bearing a considerable share in the government of his country, at some future period—His coadjutors entertain him with these prospects; but at the same time are determined to meet him at that period particularly, as an open and avowed enemy, rather than as a faithless friend. Thus poor S—— is doomed, a just reward for perfidy—to toil incessantly to get his party into power, and, when he has accomplished it, will go unrewarded for all his labours.—This disappointment will occasion his ever being in opposition; and as a misanthrope, he will die at enmity with all mankind, if he does not, previous to that period, become a disciple of Hobbes, and wage war with the world at large—thereby securing a speedy exit out of it. ~

33

*Mr. Windham*

A very curious epitome of historical information: this gentleman will tell you the precise minute when any hero of antiquity was born, and trace the whole of his actions with a degree of precision unequalled in the annals of biography: but, however extensive his information



formation on these heads, he is totally deficient in many other equally material branches of knowledge ; and, by an absurd application of that which he is master of, often makes himself truly ridiculous. In his senatorial capacity, he is perpetually digressing into the most romantic regions of history, and, by hook or by crook, will lug in any application, though extremely heterogeneous, that comes uppermost in his recollection—He will tell you a story about female chastity, when the debate is upon the regulation of corn laws ; on ancient valour, when the inquiry is into the privileges of the House ; on the fascinating charms of some of the German princesses, when the tobacco bill is under investigation : with many other equally ludicrous incoherencies.—He has been some years manufacturing a speech, and will be, most likely, many years more ; (as upon the most confined calculation, it will take three years in the delivery, supposing he speaks every day twelve hours) wherein he intends to give a complete history of the world, from the days of Adam to the present time, introducing all the anecdotes he can procure upon the subject, and which he means to elucidate with long philosophical notes, of an opiate quality : but the *cacoethes loquendi*, long ere he concludes this wonderful



wonderful specimen of oratory—will bring on a delirium, wherein he will conceive himself in the company of all the celebrated ancients—and will actually write an account of the ghostly conversations that passed between them and him. ~

34 C. Jenkinson, Lord Hawkebury, afterwards Earl of  
Liverpool

Here is one of the most artful adherents to power that ever existed—from his origin, too obscure to gain promotion (possessing no abilities) otherwise than by gross adulation, he determined from his commencement into public life, to resign every vulgar consideration of honour and honesty to further his interest with the ministry: in this he so far succeeded, as to be appointed nightman to government; nor had they ever reason to complain that he was not sufficiently corrupt, or had too many qualms of conscience to become injurious to their designs. The same line of conduct he has pursued in succeeding administrations; and at length has attained what most people would consider as the summit of their ambition; but this is not the case with him, as he looks for much higher honours, and even finally the total supplantation

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of



of his patron. But these prospects are but visionary—it being decreed that he shall speedily be clandestinely murdered, while sneaking in at the back-door of the treasury, to receive his salary for secret services.

35

*Peter Pindar Esq.*

A strange medley of character—sincere without virtue—devout without religion—honest without principle. He is a smatterer in all sciences, in all knowledge, perfect in none—assumes a presidency over each of the three sister arts, but is little acquainted with either; yet his company is courted, and his humour is admired, because severity characterizes all his remarks, and scandal is uppermost in his thoughts.

For a long time he has traduced his sovereign; and though there may be much cause for censure in the conduct of our monarch, licentious wit does not become his subject: were he a king, 'tis true, he would behave otherwise; but the remedy would be infinitely worse than the disease. Though he so freely censures others for penuriousness, he is himself to an extreme penurious. Though he traduces others for debauchery,



bauchery, he, advanced in years, and almost toothless, cannot resign the principles of a debauchee. A little while longer he will continue with his pen to abuse the world; till, falling foul of a well-known celebrated character, who possesses more resolution than the generality of his victims, he will be soundly caned in public company for his presumption—and soon after, being designedly ducked under London bridge, will take a cold that will prove fatal to him.

36

*Bishop of Durham Dr. Thurlow*

This prelate is indebted for his promotion to the success of his brother—little more can, or need be said of him, than that he is an egregious blockhead; he will not rise higher, nor can he go lower—so, just where he is, will he remain till he can stay no longer.

37

*Colonel Lennox,*

Educated under his uncle, he will fire a pistol ball ten yards distance to the certainty of an hair's breath—is he not a brave fellow, who, possess'd of such an advantage, will fight a duel? most assuredly—but this is  
not



not always the case with our hero, his courage as often finding an habitation in his breeches as in his heart.— Before he dies, he will profess a great willingness to benefit his country ; and, like his noble relative, will be perpetually manufacturing project upon project, equally futile and ridiculous. After all, I believe he may be of a good disposition—will kiss his wife when she solicits him—and if he does not become too vain of the privilege, perhaps she may boil him a little Scotch crowdy now and then for breakfast—but he must not depend upon so much favour, unless he behaves well. —†

38

*Earl of Lonsdale*

This nobleman has discovered a new mode of obtaining a peerage: he does not attempt political services, for those he well knows he is not capable of: nor does he lay a train of servile adulation to blow up the minister, but, instead thereof, professes himself so great a patriot, as to make the nation a present of a third rate ship of war—the vessel is not yet launched, though proffered these ten years—and never will.—He is not content with the reward he has secured for a mere promise, but will shortly offer a first rate

rate

†

*He succeeded his uncle in the title of Duke of Richmond, and was appointed Governor of Upper Canada, where he died from the effects of Hydrophobia. \* cap. 11.*



rate line of battle ship, in hopes of a dukedom.—But he is known too well as an artful manœuverer, to succeed a second time in so palpable an artifice. His life is one continued scene of riot, and a most plentiful fortune he will squander away in folly and inebriety; till, fatiated with a course of contemptible vices—he will close his days a religious enthusiast.

39

*Marquis of Buckingham.*

It is all over with you, my good Lord—in a sister kingdom, your œconomical theory almost brought you—I need not tell you where—you know well enough.—Now, however, pray be satisfied—and learn to be quiet while you are safe—You do not possess the information of a statesman by heritage, for very many were the blunders of your fire; and well I am persuaded, you have not acquired them by tuition, for your own have been as numerous and as mischievous;—therefore, my good M— of B—, let me once more request you to take warning from your predecessors—take warning from your father, from your brother, and from yourself—*clam* is the watch-word.

L

Mr.



40

Mr. ———.

To anticipate what will become of this infernal literary monster, is to inform mankind he is even too bad for any world to come. Hell will be ashamed of him, and the Devil, when he sees him, will blush for his vices—Hide your heads, ye sons of infamy, for he is one that can excel you all!—could thief, murder, adulterate, fornicate, ay, any thing, was he not as great a coward as he is a scoundrel; was he not afraid of private chastisement, or of being the principal performer in a public execution. This man has abilities, and he has raised a literary reputation; but he could not be satisfied with the fair fame he had gained, therefore was determined to secure a character, which the greatest rogue upon earth would be ashamed of—reasoning as the incendiary did, when he burnt the temple of Ephesus.

41

*The Bishop of St David's Dr Sam<sup>l</sup> Horsley*

Is one of the staunchest supporters of the Established Church that ever existed—to alienate the dissenters,  
he



he would exert every nerve, and madly draw the sword of vengeance if he beheld any probability of success.—He possesses considerable abilities ; but, it must be confessed by his sincerest friends, that the bigotry of his principles are a great disgrace to him as a man, and still more so, as an enlightened and exalted churchman. He looks forward to considerable preferment, and will most likely obtain it, as his friends are numerous as well as powerful ; and if his Lordship would read the Holy Scriptures with a little more attention, than I consider he has hitherto done—he will find, one of the greatest ornaments of humanity is charity with all men ; I cannot conceive this to be one of his tenets, when he is perpetually railing at every sect of christianity, excepting the one he professes. He will inevitably, and justly, fall a sacrifice to his mistaken zeal.

42

P—

—, *Parkhurst*

An orthodox singularity, and an heterogeneous lump of conceit—a daily scribbler for his daily bread—yet contaminated with as much pride as would be more than sufficient for a bishopric. Not content  
with



with the purity of his mother-tongue, he has invented a language of his own, with which he is daily tormenting the public—though the world is totally ignorant of all he does say, and of all he would wish to say—as he leaves much he intends should be understood, unsaid, as an exercise for the ingenuity of his readers. This mysterious line of conduct has led him into a vortex of absurdity—and he is now so far bewildered in the mazes of his new Lexicon, as scarcely to understand the original meaning of any word in the English dictionary : but, with regard to this mutual ignorance of himself and his readers, he is by no means displeased, as to make use of the same tongue, though he might not arrive to an even degree of perfection with a coal-heaver or a shoe-black, would much degrade his clerical dignity.—However marvellous this gentleman's philological abilities may be, he has at present discovered them only in a very confined sphere, to that which he intends hereafter. To accomplish (among other vast designs, he is now studying all the oriental languages, as well as northern) an original language, free from the many impurities which abound in all, and will possess more guttural beauties than the Hebrew ; and as he is making considerable  
use



use of Mr. Lemon's Entomological dictionary, and of Mr. Pinkerton's, *alias* Heron's Letters on Literature, it is natural to suppose, that a combination of the powers of three such original genuises, may produce a new vocabulary, equally unintelligible to all. The mode of illustration of some words, will be singularly curious: that of **WORLD** as follows:—"a queer thing—a lufus Tophami—a quoz—a scandal-bag full of lies, *der.* a World—a sphere tumbling round the universe." **CAPTAIN**, "a Merry-andrew—a puppet-show-man—a coward, and a goose—*der.* caput numskull." At length, when he undertakes the word **PRIG**, *alias* Parson, the difficulty of the task will bring on a violent fit of coughing, that will strangle him in the elucidation.

43

*Colonel Tarleton,*

Equally well known in the arduous services of the field, and the infinitely more pleasing, though less glorious services of Venus: this gentleman was reared in the field of battle, and with many a laurel has he adorned his brow, and still many more is he doomed to bear, before old age brings him to

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the



the grave. He possesses, in a high degree, the manners of a gentleman, and, in consequence thereof, is so much the favourite of the fair, as to be secure of obtaining even the most precious favour he can solicit.—Many of the loveliest part of the creation have been beguiled into the paths of frailty by his fascinating qualifications.—Nor have they had reason to repent of his perfidy.—But, unfortunately, this disciple of pleasure is too sensible of the attractions of a gambling-table, ever to experience the real pleasure of independence; ever to be more what he is, a tool, through whose bravery superiors may acquire fame, and through whose influence, debauchees may not be totally destitute of zest to their illicit appetites.

44

*Lord Auckland,*

Alias L—Lackland—alias the celebrated apostate Billy *Eden*,—possessed of fine feelings for the honour of his country; he considered it impossible that the state should flourish, unassisted by his *disinterested* endeavours, and therefore highly commendatory to his heart and to his head; he deserted the party unto whom  
he



he had vowed eternal constancy to; and a few thousands *per annum*, with the addition of an Irish peerage, which he has lately procured, sufficiently compensates for the loss of his former friends. He is equally capable of blowing adulation and censure with the same breath, and just as it suits his interest, will make out his patron the most immaculate character, or most notorious of villains. He has in contemplation many future embassies, wherein he proposes displaying what he has never done yet—uncommon abilities.—When the present set of ministers are necessitated to resign their situation, he, in as suppliant a tone as a common mendicant, will again solicit the friendship of his former allies, but not with the same success, which he is confident enough to consider inevitable, from the superiority, as he has the assurance to suppose, of his diplomatic talents.—This disappointment will produce a fit of distraction—and after a tolerably long confinement in St. Luke's—he will quarrel with the wall, which he will consider as his Catholic majesty—and fall a sacrifice to his anger.

45

*Lady Archer.*

The real appearance of this lady is very little known, even to her waiting-maid—as a constant suc-  
cession



cession of rouge upon rouge has hid her face for ever from the eye of the curious. Some people may imagine this proceeds from motives of modesty—Let not the world, however, be deceived, by the imposition of a worn-out beauty—who, with a view to hide the havoc which Time has made on her once beautiful features, has recourse, without success, to the most obnoxious of artifices to renovate her former loveliness. Unsatisfied with the brilliant emanations her daughters' charms have scattered amidst the fashionable world, she discovered a disposition prone to the most unwarrantable tyranny—she raised her arm against her lovely offspring, who were necessitated to seek refuge from the vengeance of a mother in the house of a distant relation. Her vanity, notwithstanding grey locks adorn her shoulders—will unremittingly continue as great, till upwards of sixty winters have furrowed her brows beyond the power of paint to deceive; and a withered, wan-worn, worthless, old woman, she will sink into the common receptacle of all—unnoticed—unlamented.

*The*



46

*The Prince of Wales*

Is by no means that chaste and most excellent of characters, which his hackneyed panegyrists wish the world to suppose—or the most infamous of debauchees, and the most unfeeling of mortals, which the adherents of administration seem to insinuate: justice will be done to him, if we neither believe the one or the other of the idle reports which are swallowed by a credulous multitude. He is possessed of all the passions which usually accompany young men brought up to the enjoyment of unlimited affluence and power; and has too often, to gratify his inclinations, o'erleap'd the bounds of decorum.—On the other hand, his heart is good, his manners are elegant, and his mind is well stored with useful and entertaining knowledge. His liberality, however, is often at the expence of his creditors; though the situation in life, which he will fill some time hence, will enable him amply to reimburse them for present inconveniencies. A few years hence may most likely pourtray him in a very different light to the world—The fire of youth may in some measure give place to the warmth of manhood, and a series

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of



of irresolute and trivial actions, may be eclipsed by the powers of his head, and the philanthropy of his heart.

47

*Duke. of Bedford*

There is a very curious medley in the brain of this young nobleman—Blessed with shining abilities, he might be a very considerable ornament to his country; but his mind is too much captivated with the charms of a horse-race, the rattling of the dice, or the contents of the bottle, to be worth the notice of the public. His passion for money is as great as his fortune is extensive; and if, instead of being possessed of near an hundred thousand *per annum*, he could not command above one hundred farthings, he could not be more solicitous of amassing wealth, under the perpetual apprehension of starving; nor is it unlikely, in his present situation, that it may actually be the case, though in the midst of plenty.

48

*Mr. Kemble*

An automaton, endeavouring to imitate the ease of nature, would not make a more miserable essay than  
this



this theatrical Lexiphanes. When on the boards of old Drury, he struts with such a strutting face, you would swear a poker was driven down his throat to keep him upright. When he tells a tale of love, he is so melancholy, that a methodist parson, dejected by all the fiends of despair, could not make a more woful appearance than this lump of tragic mummery—and when he attempts the vivacity of comedy, it is to be sure the most tragical, comical, farcical, operatical, pantomimical exhibition that ever was represented. Notwithstanding, however, his incapability to perform in any character, excepting where the stiff, staunch hero portrays the braggadocio; yet does his vanity perpetually induce him to assume many characters he is by no means equal to. As a manager, he is tyrannical and overbearing—assuming more of the parade and consequence of real magistracy in his mock sovereignty, than is compatible with the privileges common to every diverting vagabond. As he is very penurious, he is amassing from the pockets of a deluded public very considerable wealth, with which he means, as opportunity offers, to purchase the shares of the theatre over which he presides, determining, as speedily as possible, to monopolize the fruits of the public favour, which he considers.



ders will be showered on his Jewish reverence for ever ; but, in this respect, like most other upstarts, he will be materially disappointed, as rotten oranges thrown by an enraged author from the shilling gallery, will put out both his eyes, and quiet his flight of theatrical ambition for ever.

49

*Mr. Boswell.*

Whatever may be this gentleman's name, for I assure you he does not know himself, he is verily a very pretty journal-scribbler—He tolerably well knows the nature and influence of a puff ; if Mr. Sharp the perfumer, or Mr. Hemet the dentist, or the celebrated Mr. Patience, or the wonderful Katerfelto, or the nimble-heeled Mr. Astley, want a gentleman, in this capacity, I do assure you, there is some small probability that he will answer their purposes. Among other great requisites for success in this material branch of literature, he has an extreme good assurance, *i. e.* can assert the most positive falsehoods without a blush ; and, if necessary, as he has a good pair of Highland shoulders, will bear a beating into the bargain. Once more, my  
good



good gentry, let me recommend him to you, as I should be sorry he should starve—and, depend upon it, he will never make any thing of a lawyer—even though *M*— — should beat him into a mummy, he would not know how to conduct the prosecution, and would be much puzzled whether to term it in the indictment an assault, &c. or a certain portion of wholesome chastisement.

Seriously, my dear sir, let me advise you to give up all thoughts of writing *Johnson*'s life—You have already injured his fair fame sufficiently already, and if you should once more venture to do him so much injustice, I will not answer for his continuing in the mansions of the dead twenty-four hours after publication, but, like another Hercules, he will carry you down to Hell, and unceasingly continue to torment you with all the devils of the infernal regions, infinitely more destructive than all the devils of a printing-house, when ordered by the enraged spirit of *M*— — to blackball your sheets. If, however, you take my advice, and think no more about *Johnson*, there are some hopes that, when you seek an asylum in the dominions of Pluto, time may in some measure have soothed the anger of the

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literary.



literary Goliath ; and, instead of lopping off your leaden head, he may only deprive you of your five senses, and then make use of you as the most servile of his domestics.

50

*Mother Windsor.*

Alas ! old encourager of vice, when will thy ways begin to mend ?—The Oracle says never—never !—I start at the very word, and call on the justice of Heaven to destroy thy infernal soul.—The time, however, is not far off, when death will level thee a lifeless corpse—food for worms ; and were the deities inclined to be merciful to so enormous an offender, the only boon they could give thee worth thy notice, would be annihilation. Thy death will be as singular as thy life has been infernal—A banditti of prostitutes will drag thee forth into the contaminated ways before thy house ; and as Cæsar fell by a host of senators a victim to his ambition, so will you fall a sacrifice to the anger of as many injured women, who have lived long enough in misery to gain resolution to destroy the author of their ruin.



31

L— *F* *relating to the*

A lifeless lump of incapability, not even possessed of any one of the five senses in perfection: he is purblind, when he ought to have spectacles upon his nose—and has often eat a pound of putrid flesh—being unable to distinguish a carcase that has been suspended in the market for a month in the dog-days, from that which has been slaughtered but the day before.—These imperfections, however, the Oracle would be happy to consider as arising from the niggard disposition of nature, was it not too well known to be the effect of the most notorious debaucheries.—Though still a slave to passions he is unable to gratify—though daily exhibiting (I might almost say publicly) proofs of his own inability—yet he has it seriously in contemplation, to hazard a second infringement upon the rights of British women, which some years Lord Baltimore had so unsuccessfully attempted, by establishing a Seraglio of beauties, in imitation of the Bashaw principles of a Turkish monastery.—In attempting to accomplish this idle and impracticable scheme,



scheme, he will very justifiably fall a sacrifice to female vengeance ; who, *imprimis*, will deprive him of the small remaining testimony of his sex—then, having scourged him severely with leathern thongs, drenched him well in his own urine, pickled, brined him, and salted him, to preserve his rotten carcase a little longer than there were any hopes of, nature being left alone to procrastinate his dissolution—his head will be severed from his body, and his empty skull being set in silver, will become the favourite chamber utensil of Mother ~~Jackson~~<sup>Jackson</sup>, in gratitude for the considerable emoluments she has derived from his partiality to her profession. His soul, however, new tortures await in the infernal regions—for, after having been devilled, toasted, roasted, and broiled—it will be served up to his infernal majesty as a dainty bit to stay his appetite, till a few more mortals, of similar depraved principles, shall make their appearance in the hellish monarch's domains.



FINIS.



